

T. R. HAS SUITE FOR GATHERING OF THE G. O. P.

Action Is Taken as Indication That Colonel Is to Take Big Part in Convention.

OPTION EXPIRES TOMORROW

Reservations Were Made Week Ago After Conference at Oyster Bay.

CHICAGO, Dec. 20.—Reports that Colonel Roosevelt will take a hand in the Republican national convention gained credence in Chicago today, when admission was made that Roosevelt's friends have taken an option on the Florence room at the Congress Hotel for the period of the convention.

The option expires tomorrow. Medill McCormick, who conferred with Colonel Roosevelt Saturday, is speeding to Chicago today to report the colonel's decision to his friends here.

The reservation was tentatively made by Harold Ickes, chairman of the Progressive party, the Congress management said.

"Ickes said he would tell us today or tomorrow to make the reservation permanent."

The reservation was made last week, immediately after the conference here between Ickes and George W. Perkins. Ickes at that time declared Roosevelt had asserted he would not come to the convention. McCormick then was sent to New York for a conference with Roosevelt.

The Florence room at the Congress Hotel, which is the headquarters of the Progressive party, besides having quarters for offices.

According to one political worker who has seen Roosevelt within the last month, the colonel's position is this:

He will not be a candidate himself under any circumstances.

He will support a man of Cummins type if nominated by the Republicans. If the Republicans nominate any man directly or indirectly connected with what he still regards as the "chief at Chicago" in 1912, Roosevelt will fight the candidate and the party.

Under all circumstances, he will oppose Wilson's re-election with every ounce of energy.

"I don't think Burton would be an acceptable candidate to Roosevelt," said this political worker, who wanted his name withheld. "Neither Roosevelt nor Weeks would be satisfactory. Possibly Burton might—I don't know."

"I don't see why there should be any hullabaloo raised over Roosevelt's attendance at dinner given by E. H. Gary. The fact that there is a warm personal friendship between Roosevelt and Gary is a matter of common knowledge among Progressives. Roosevelt has eaten with Gary and Gary's friends a number of times before the election, and he will do so many times more in the future."

"I do not look to see any public statement from Roosevelt on his views for several months."

Politicians Stirred By Roosevelt Talk Caused by Gary Dinner

Growing out of the recent Judge Gary dinner, at which Col. Theodore Roosevelt was a guest, and out of various political developments, there is increasing speculation in Washington over the question of whether the colonel is going to enter the lists as a candidate for President in 1916.

This speculation touches chiefly the question whether he is going to support the Republican nomination. To some extent, it also reaches to whether he will take the nomination on the Bull Moose ticket, a nomination which he can have if he will merely give a sign that he will take it.

The Judge Gary dinner is responsible only in part for the talk about the colonel. It has in a way served to crystallize the discussion. So far as known here, the Gary dinner was not political and was not given with the object of going over the ground as to the colonel being a candidate. Nor, as a matter of fact, is the question known in Washington, in truth, is in the dark as to the dinner.

But no matter about the real purpose of the dinner, the publication of stories about it has unquestionably served to set the tongues of the political gossipers buzzing. The flood of talk about Roosevelt as a candidate at this time may have big political results before it is ended.

The close friends of Colonel Roosevelt in Washington, while perceiving that a situation may arise at Chicago which will lead to his nomination, insist he is in no sense seeking nomination.

This word has been brought here lately through several sources in intimate touch with the colonel's President. That he has discussed with some of his friends of late the question of what men he could support if nominated on the Republican ticket is well known. The upshot of this is that the colonel, as understood here, is prepared to support a man who will be satisfactory to the great body of the men who voted with the Progressive party in 1912.

A significant interview has been given out here by Henry J. Allen, of Kansas, one of the chiefs of the Bull Moose movement. Mr. Allen is not only a politician of acumen, but he is an intimate of the colonel. He was last year candidate of the Progressive party for governor of Kansas.

Returned Conditionally. Mr. Allen says that while great numbers of the Progressives have returned to the Republican party, they have returned conditionally, and will leave the Republicans just as quickly as ever if a man is not nominated to suit them. They will not support a reactionary candidate.

Mr. Allen regards Justice Hughes as the only national asset the Republicans have, but doubts whether Hughes would run. He thinks the Progressive party men would support Hughes as a powerful lot, and, again, it may not.

Summed up, this is the politician's view here. The political wisecracks were admittedly up in the air over the matter. Candidates and near-candidates were chary of opinion today.

There are eighty cities in the United States with a commission form of government similar to that of the District of Columbia, according to municipal statistics made public by the Census Bureau this afternoon.

Policewomen are employed in twenty-six cities, while no fewer than 122 of the 204 cities have their police departments on a civil service basis.

One of the most significant features of the report shows that the policemen of Washington have a longer time to serve to attain the maximum grade than those of any other city. The Census Bureau says:

"Among the cities of 100,000 or more, the longest term of service necessary to attain the highest grade is found in Washington, D. C., where, after three years of service at \$900 and five more at \$1,080, the patrolman finally receives \$1,200 per annum."

Municipal Prohibition. Municipal prohibition prevails in fifteen cities. State prohibition in seven, county and parish prohibition in three. In fifteen cities certain saloons are licensed to sell malt liquors only. A bulletin on the general statistics of cities, showing all of these facts, will be published.

The preliminary report shows: The largest city at present operating under the commission form of government is New Orleans, whose population is estimated at about 365,000; but Buffalo, with a population of about 460,000, has recently voted to inaugurate this system on January 1, 1916. Next in order are Washington, D. C., with nearly 350,000 inhabitants; Portland, Ore., with about 260,000; and Denver, with about 250,000.

Three to Seven Members. In these cities the commissions range in size from three to seven members. Those in St. Paul and Omaha have seven members each, those in San Diego, Cal., and Fort Worth, Tex., six each, and that in Huntington, W. Va., four. All the other commissions are composed of either three or five members, the great majority having five.

Policewomen are now employed in twenty-six cities. Chicago has twenty-one, Baltimore, Los Angeles, and Seattle five each; Pittsburgh, four; St. Paul, three each; and Dayton, Toledo, Kan., and Minneapolis, two each. Fifteen other cities have one each. Their pay ranges from \$625 per annum in Dayton, to \$1,300 in San Francisco.

The greatest daily consumption of water per inhabitant, 430 gallons, is reported for Tacoma, Wash., and the smallest, thirty-four gallons, for Woonsocket, R. I. The tendency of meters to curtail greatly the use of water is strikingly shown by figures cited.

Urges Use of Schools For Social Service. Civic improvements and the use of the public school buildings as social service centers will be advocated by G. Grosvenor Dawe at a meeting of the representatives of the various women's clubs and civic philanthropic organizations throughout the city, to be held at noon at p. m., in connection with the regular meeting of the Excelsior Literary Society.

Other speakers will be Mrs. Court F. Wolf, president of the District of Columbia Association of Women's Clubs, and Mrs. E. H. Fritcher, General Federation secretary.

Assisting Mrs. Dawe as hostess will be Mrs. Chipman and Mrs. Lydia Adams Williams. Mrs. Ellis Logan, Mrs. Ann Beer, Miss Clara L. Hendley, and Miss Francis Parry will also assist.

Wireless-controlled torpedoes, shot from submarines and battleships, is the latest invention occupying the attention of the naval advisory board of inventors and the Bureau of Ordnance.

It is the hope of the Navy Department experts that the device will have been sufficiently tried out to permit its installation on some of the submarines, dreadnaughts, and battleships to be authorized under the new naval program.

The Department is likewise endeavoring to perfect the wireless telephone invention to such an extent as will permit its practical operation between the shore stations and the ships of the fleet.

The wireless torpedo was invented by John Hays Hammond, Jr. It has already been adopted by the War Department for use in connection with the coast defenses and appropriations for its installation are asked in the annual report of the chief of the Coast Artillery Corps.

It is claimed for the torpedo that it can be controlled absolutely as to direction from the time it leaves the propelling tube, and that the chances of a missed shot are reduced to a minimum.

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Naval Advisory Board Hopes for Installation on War Vessels.

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Wife and \$3,500 Gone, Greek Tears Up \$300

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 20.—Claiming that his wife was about to elope with Theodore Kalofinis and \$3,500 in cash and diamonds that she had obtained during the last few days, Alexander Drakopoulos grew so angry that he took what money remained and tore up \$300 in currency, realizing that vengeance was not to be found that way.

The remains of the family fortune consisted of \$1,400 before his pique led him to destroy the \$300. Heaving a sigh of relief that calm had come before it was all gone, Drakopoulos sought Kalofinis and the missing wife through the police. Kalofinis was placed under arrest.

Drakopoulos, a Greek, was employed in the public school buildings as a social service center will be advocated by G. Grosvenor Dawe at a meeting of the representatives of the various women's clubs and civic philanthropic organizations throughout the city, to be held at noon at p. m., in connection with the regular meeting of the Excelsior Literary Society.

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